

## SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

### SARL NEWS SUNDAY 13 JANUARY 2002

This is Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with its weekly news bulletin. This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za) and packet bulletin boards.

### SILENT KEY

We regret to announce the passing away of Willie Opperman, previously ZR6ARF, and for the last two months, ZS6WO, on Wednesday 9 January. Willie was 45 years old and passed away due to an aneurism on a vein in the brain. Willie was a member of the Centurion Amateur Radio Club and was known for his activities on 6 m.

Our sincerest symphaties to his wife, children and other relatives.

PAUSE.

Here are the headlines of today's news:

NOMINATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR SARL AND TINUS LANGE AWARDS

LICENCE RENEWALS

NEW CALL BOOK

NEW AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA ON ISS

PITCAIRN ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION ADMITTED TO IARU

PROPAGATION

CLUB NEWS

You are listening to ZS6SRL. The news follows in detail.

NOMINATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR SARL AND TINUS LANGE AWARDS

This is a reminder that nominations are to be submitted for 9 awards by the SARL as well as for the two Tinus Lange Technical Awards.

The closing date for the SARL awards is 22 February 2002 and it should be addressed to The Secretary, SARL Annual Awards, PO BOX 1721 STRUBENSVALLEI 1735.

The closing date for submission of nominations for the Tinus Lange 7066 Technical Awards is 31 January 2002 and must be addressed to: SARL Tinus Lange Awards, P O Box 1721, Strubensvallei, 1735.

For full details about the awards visit the web page of the SARL at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za), or look at previous bulletins or request [sarlnews@hotmail.com](mailto:sarlnews@hotmail.com) to forward it to you.

#### LICENCE RENEWALS

A number of enquiries regarding the notices of renewal for licenses have been received by head office. According to a spokes person at ICASA they have had problems with sending the notices out but that it is expected that they will be delivered during the next week.

#### NEW CALL BOOK

The new call book is at present being printed and it is planned to post it together with the Jan/Feb edition of Radio ZS during the last week of January.

This is a free service that is only available to members of the SARL. SARL membership is the only way to acquire this call book. Now is a very good time to join the SARL and so get all the services available to members.

#### NEW AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA ON ISS

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station Board Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, has announced that one of the four new ARISS antennas will be installed during a scheduled January 14 spacewalk. It is a "WA3" model VHF-UHF flexible tape antenna which will be affixed to one end of the Service Module.

The Russian team is able to deploy this particular antenna sooner than the others because it is located very close to where the four RF connections go into the Service Module.

Expedition Four Commander Yuri Onufrienko, RK3DUO, and flight engineers Carl Walz, KC5TIE, and Dan Bursch, KD5PNU, are beginning their second month in orbit aboard the ISS. They have not yet been active on amateur radio, although several ARISS school contacts are pending.

Installation of the new antenna paves the way for two separate ham stations aboard Space Station Alpha. Plans call for one station to remain in the Functional Cargo Block using the Russian antennas that had been used to dock the FGB but are now used for ARISS. A second station will be set up in the Service Module—or Zvezda—using the new antenna.

"The installation of this first antenna on the outside of Zvezda will allow the crew to set up ham radio equipment in their living quarters," said Bauer, who's also chief of the Guidance, Navigation and Control Center at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center Maryland. The initial station ham gear was installed aboard the Zarya module because that module went into space first.

"The Zarya location worked well," Bauer said, "but this new setup is much more comfortable and convenient and should allow for more contact between the crew

and Amateur Radio operators and schools on Earth.” The other three antennas will be installed later this year.

#### PITCAIRN ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION ADMITTED TO IARU

Voting has been completed on a proposal to admit the Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association (PIARA) as a member of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). PIARA has been notified of its admission effective 15 November 2001.

PIARA is an independent non-profit organisation to promote and develop amateur radio friendship, technical knowledge, and communication technology, providing public service and furthering the public interest, plus fostering international goodwill. It has 10 members, representing the entire population of resident amateur operators. PIARA reports that there are 23 amateurs licensed to operate including several temporary residents and visitors, plus one club station. Amateur Radio has special significance on Pitcairn Island, as it continues to provide the main communications link to the outside world.

Pitcairn Islands (including Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie, and Oeno Islands) is an overseas territory of the United Kingdom. The application for IARU membership by PIARA is supported by the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB). Due to transport difficulties from and to Pitcairn, PIARA has requested that the RSGB continue to represent PIARA at IARU Region 3 Conferences.

The official address of PIARA is: P.O. Box 88, Adamstown, Pitcairn Island, South Pacific Ocean via New Zealand.

The IARU now has members in 151 countries and separate territories.

#### PROPAGATION

According to the ARRL propagation report solar activity has been lower this past week. Average daily sunspot numbers during the week of January 3 to 9 were nearly 52 points less than the previous week, and average daily solar flux dropped by 42 points. Along with less sunspots there was very little geomagnetic activity, which is great for HF propagation because of lower absorption.

A high speed stream of energy from a coronal hole is, however, due and the predicted planetary A index indicates a geomagnetic storm. Values for Friday through Sunday should be around 30, 20 and 15. There was also a large solar flare on Wednesday. Although it came from a sunspot near the center of the visible solar disk, the blast of energy from this flare should not bother earth.

#### CLUB NEWS

##### FREE STATE HAM RADIO EVENT

The Bloemfontein Amateur Radio Club is planning Hamvention 020202 on Saturday 02 February 2002 at their club house at Air Force Base Bloemfontein.

On Saturday 02 February 2002 radio amateurs and those interested in our hobby can visit the fleamarket/bootsale, have a look at amateur radio equipment as displayed by Multisource Icom and Radio Accessories & Data Modems and also take part in VHF/UHF and HF workshops. A refreshment stall will also be in operation.

All interested parties outside Bloemfontein can contact Barney ZS4AQZ at 083 462 7507 for more detail. Barney's e-mail address is [firedog@iafrica.com](mailto:firedog@iafrica.com). Everybody is invited to come and spend the day in the Frre State capital.

#### OTL RADIO CLUB REPEATER

The OTL Radio club repeater frequency has been changed from 145,475 to 145,6125 MHz to fall in with the 12,5 kHz channel spacing regulations. If you have any modulation problems where you are possibly near the 145,600 or 145,625 MHz repeaters it is possible that you are keying two repeaters simultaneously, change your set to the 12,5 kHz interspaceing.

The SARL News Service invites Clubs and individuals to contribute news regarding Amateur Radio to [sarlnews@hotmail.com](mailto:sarlnews@hotmail.com). It will be highly appreciated if it is done in Afrikaans as well as English and sent as early in the week as possible.

Also join us in the following activities: The President's Net on Sundays 12:00 on 7082 kHz; Amateur Radio Mirror International Sundays at 10:00 on 9750 and 21560 kHz which is repeated Mondays at 20:00 on 3215 kHz.

We thank all contributors, individuals, clubs and other organisations for contributions to this bulletin and all stations who so reliably relay the bulletins.

This bulletin was compiled by Gustav ZS6BWN, and read by.....from . . . .

You have been listening to ZS6SRL.

This bulletin now ends and Sarlnews wishes you a pleasant week.

Goodbye to all. /EX